



MEMO

from

Sir George Williams University
Library

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NOVEMBER 1966.

FROM THE EDITOR'S CHAIR

Your editor wishes to thank the many staff members who commented favourably on the last issue of Memo, and who offered valuable comments and suggestions. Special thanks to those of you who came forward with news and contributions to this November issue.

NEW SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING LIBRARY OPENS IN HALL BUILDING

Sir George Williams University has opened its first Divisional Library on the tenth floor of the Hall Building. The library offers a breathtaking view of Montreal, and unlike its senior counterpart in the Norris Building, is based on the principle of open stacks. The visitor is free to browse to his heart's content among the 16,000 volumes already on the shelves.

Aesthetically, the new library is also a delight. A relaxed but lively feeling comes from its warm burnt orange carpet, blue chairs, and off-white walls. For extra comfort, double carrels and secluded study areas have been created. A special feature which appeals to the science user is the Abstracts Bar: attractive work tables attached to the shelving where the voluminous tomes of scientific abstracts are housed.

Although it was not quite finished nor fully staffed on opening day, Sept. 12, the library started giving service immediately to students. It has since then attracted a steady and increasing clientele. Its 129 seats are almost continuously full. Two more study areas have been opened in the Hall Building: Room 437, with 212 seats, and a smaller room, accomodating another 44 persons. During October, 2114 volumes were borrowed.

The library also offers other features: Microfilm Room with a new Recordak Microfilm Reader, and Mark VII Microcard Reader. A hit with the clientele is the coin-operated Dennison copier, which prints a neat positive.

To open the new library, a major hurdle had to be crossed: to create from scratch, a new catalogue in just a few months. This huge task was rushed through just in time. The new library still depends on the Main Library for its technical services. But the Science-Engineering librarians verify selection slips, and check them against the catalogue. Ultimately all orders go to the Acquisitions Department. Additionally, 556 periodical titles are sent directly to this library by subscription agents. These journals are recorded in the Sci-Engineering's own "official" kardex, and are prepared for the bindery on the spot.

Although the library has operated for only a short time, it is staffed with many experienced people. Science Librarian Mrs. Judith Nogrady, previously in charge of the Physical Sciences Centre at McGill University, takes pride in her staff. Her aide is Joan Proudman, Senior Reference Librarian, formerly of McGill University Library's Periodical Department. Having earned her Master of Library Science degree in October, Miss Proudman was immediately asked to give a course in "Data Processing" at McGill Library School.

Other personnel include: Carolyn McInnis, Reference Librarian, in charge of Interlibrary Loans, and liaison with the Main Library's Cataloguing Department. Mrs. McInnis was formerly Cataloguer of Science Books at McGill. Having partially completed her paper on physics reference sources, she hopes to graduate with M.L.S. degree next Spring.

Joanna Vogel is in charge of Circulation. She was formerly an Assistant at the RCA Victor library for five years, and is familiar with electronics and engineering literature.

Oakley Rankin, a biology graduate of the University of Saskatchewan, is Reference Assistant; Ingrid Wennberg and Angela Kong come from the University of British Columbia Library; Joerg Adae, from Stuttgart, has a diploma in bookselling, and has had considerable experience with technical books; Alan Hudson, from the Main Library stacks, is also working in this library.

Busy as they are in settling in, the staff is now faced with another major expansion: Hundreds of boxes of books have arrived from the disbanded Engineering Institute of Canada library. These have to be unpacked, sorted out, and processed. Two supervisors, Frank Cleveland-Clifton and Dr. Julius Fehervary are working with Joan Proudman, in the Study Room 437 on this project.

ACQUISITIONS DEPARTMENT MOVING TO FULL STRENGTH

At the end of October the library's collection stood at 116,000 volumes, an increase of 10,000 in this academic year. Since the target for the full year is 35,000 volumes, our rate of production will have to be stepped up considerably. The rate of expenditure in Acquisitions is also running behind schedule and must be increased.

All this is a reflection of the special and non-productive projects undertaken during the summer, and the chaos in which staff had to operate during alterations. Now that conditions have returned to normal, or perhaps even better than normal, great things can be expected. Acquisitions may not be acquiring

enough books, but they have just acquired two new librarians and are now up to full strength. Cataloguing is still short-staffed, having gained one cataloguer but losing another almost simultaneously. We are still awaiting arrival of much new equipment and until it is installed we will not be able to use the new quarters with maximum efficiency. Hopefully, most of these problems will be solved in the next month and we can finally settle down, and have a dull but productive second half of the year.

LIBRARY VISITORS IMPRESSED WITH ACQUISITIONS DEPARTMENT

Thirteen University of Montreal Library School Students under Professor Paule Thomas toured the library last month, spending extra time in the Acquisitions Dept. Later came Agnez Hall and Yves Roberges, two librarians from the University of Moncton, who also spent some time in Acquisitions. Our visitors praised the efficiency of the Department.

INCREASED COVERAGE FOR BRITISH ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

To ensure that the library stocks most of the important books of thirteen eminent publishers, the library has joined Publishers Academic Library Service, Toronto. P.A.L.S. informs us (often well in advance) about newly published books, and our librarians are free to accept or reject each title on the basis of its suitability for our collections. Three of the publishers are Canadian: Longmans of Canada, Macmillan of Canada and Oxford University Press (Canadian Branch). The other ten are British: Edward Constable, Longmans, Green, Macmillan, John Murray, and Penguin Books. Advantages claimed for the scheme are faster receipt of new books at lower prices than if ordered from Britain, lower administration costs, and most important, the lesser likelihood that significant books will be overlooked in the ordering process. P.A.L.S. eventually hopes to extend its coverage to all British publishers with lists particularly suitable for academic libraries.

ALICE IN WONDERLAND GIVES LIBRARY INSTRUCTION

A new and experimental method to library instruction has been initiated this term. In place of the traditional guided library tour, an hour-long library lecture is being offered - but with an imaginative difference. SGWU drama students perform a parody of Alice-in-Wonderland on colored slides, and a synchronized dubbed-in tape unfolds a humorous library plot.

The program is being presented to 2,800 students. Last year, only 1,600 of the 2,400 eligible freshmen were able to tour the library. An increased enrolment this year forced the Public Services Department to undertake a new approach.

In cooperation with Prof. G.A.B. Moore, of the University's Instructional Media Office, a script was written by student Rodney D. Langley, who was assisted in the production by Barry Barnes. Photography was by Walter C.W. Lister. Student actors form a mythical cast of characters whom Alice (played by beefy Allen Nutik) meets in the library. Each madcap character

tells Alice something about the operations of the library. The tone of the production is light and gay.

As one character tells Alice:

"Bibliography
May not get your soul to heaven
But you'll get A's instead of D's"

The slides are preceded by an introduction on the TV screen by chief librarian Keith Crouch. Leslie Thomson, head of Reference Services, concludes with a presentation of how to go about a research assignment.

COMPUTERS AND THE LIBRARY

The library's Serials List has been printed out, and is in the final stages of being reproduced. The list serves as an account of all our periodical holdings.

Mrs. Helen Howard, head of Public Services, attended the American Documentation Institute in Santa Monica, California, October 3 - 7, entitled "Progress in Information Technology". She also visited the new U.C.L.A. research library and saw its new automated circulation system in operation.

Miss Lois Côté, the library's Coordinator of Automation Projects, attended the Fourth Symposium on Machine Methods in libraries, sponsored by the Washington University School of Medicine Library, St. Louis, Mo., November 3 - 5, 1966.

BELATED CONGRATULATIONS

To Marilyn Loken, who acquired her B.L.S. degree from McGill University Library School last spring. She is now working full-time in the Recataloguing Unit.

A SPEEDY RECOVERY TO YOU

Miss Margaret Tobin, recent University of Saskatchewan graduate who joined our Periodicals Department during the summer, is making a strong recovery from her severe injuries. She was struck down early last month by a motor-cycle on Sherbrooke Street. She was in the Intensive Care unit at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital for several days. The library staff sent flowers. Margaret is back in Saskatchewan now and hopes to return to the library early in the new year.

A THOUSAND WELCOMES

Patricia CONLON, from Redpath Library, McGill University, and library experience in London (Circulation).

Elana FREEMAN, S.G.W.U. evening student, formerly with U.S. Gypsum Co., New York. (Cataloguing.)

Edward K. HANNA, SGWU student, formerly with the National Science Library, Ottawa (Stacks)

Mrs. Muriel HARRIS, formerly part-time with our library (Circ.)

John HISLOP, SGWU evening student, formerly forms clerk, Standard Brands Ltd., Montreal (Stacks)

Mrs. Patty KALLIO, formerly teaching elementary school in Vancouver (Cat.)

Diana KERTLAND, graduate of Bishop's University and McGill University Library School; formerly with Brock University Library (Acquisitions)

Mrs. Nancy LLOYD, graduate of Bishop's University, M.A. student (history) at U. of Western Ontario. Formerly with the Bell Telephone Library; and with abstracting service of Canadian National Library. (Documents)

Carol McDONAGH, recent graduate of Marionapolis College, Montreal (Circ.)

Mrs. Dorothy RUSSELL, graduate of Moravian College, whose husband has assumed a teaching post in SGWU's English Dept. (Circ.)

Jessie SINCLAIR, who comes with 2½ years experience from U. of Toronto Library, as a library assistant (Ref.)

Mrs. Laura SCHNEERER, recent graduate of Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, with credits in library science (Periodicals)

Ahmed SIDDIQUI, B.Sc. graduate of Osmania University (India), and M.A. (Lib. Science) from the University of Karachi. Formerly with the Pakistan Council of Scientific and Industrial Research Documentation Centre, Karachi. (Cataloguing - Science Materials)

Susan TOWNSEND, graduate of Bishop's University and McGill University Library School; formerly librarian of Woodland (elementary-secondary) School, Verdun, Que. (Acq.)

AVE, ATQUE VALE

Marie BUGA (Circ.)

Lyla EYBEN has retured from full time to part-time work (Circ.)

Mrs. Erika GOTTLIEB is continuing her M.L.S. studies at McGill University Library School after four years in Cataloguing Dept.

Mrs. Jean NEMETH has gone to Boston, with her husband, who is continuing his postgraduate work in Chemistry (Acq.)

Margaret SMITH (Periodicals).

Kenneth SANDIFORD (Stacks).

OUR NEXT ISSUE

The newly-opened Microfilm and Documents Room will be described in our next issue.

FRENCH-CANADIAN BIBLIOGRAPHY - BY COMPUTER

Under the imprint of Sir George Williams University Digital Computer Center, Cameron and Elizabeth Nish have compiled a Bibliographie pour servir à l'étude de l'histoire du Canada française. Bulletin No. 1.

This computer-produced bulletin is expected to be produced on a biannual basis as a joint project of Sir George Williams University's Centre d'étude du Québec (Room 462-9 of the Hall Building) and Montreal's École des Hautes Études Commerciales, Centre de recherche en histoire économique du Canada français (535 Avenue Viger).

One advantage of computerized bibliographies are that the format is open ended. (Any number of additional items can be incorporated, and those omissions, and new materials can be integrated into a new book.) Another advantage is that any one of its coded sections can be printed off separately to meet the special needs of researchers.

The bulletin and its successors are available on a subscription basis at the above address.